



# MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Richard Hicks, Interim City Manager  
Sean Clark, Parks and Recreation Director  
Jon Hawley, Grants Administrator

**Date:** March 25, 2022

**Re:** Consideration - Award of Bid for George M. Wood Memorial Park Repairs

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***BACKGROUND:***

Last fall, the City of Elizabeth City won a Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Grant from the NC Division of Coastal Management for the George M. Wood Memorial Park Restoration Project. Following City Council review and acceptance, City staff entered into a grant contract with DCM effective January 1, 2022. Our grant amount is \$92,180, plus a 10-percent local match of \$10,300, for a total project budget of \$102,480.

The GMW Park project entails replacing deckboards and stringers throughout the boardwalk, which was closed in 2020 after storm damage. It also provides for installing handrails and edge protections, as well as a handicapped accessible parking spot, to bring the park into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

City staff first solicited bids for this project in late January and held our first bid opening on February 14. (Note: At less than \$500,000, our project may follow informal rather than formal bidding procedures under state law, G.S. 143-131.) This bid was far in excess of our project budget, and so we re-advertised.

We held our second bid opening on March 14, and received three bids, all from well-qualified and experienced companies. We are recommending the project be awarded to Sawyer Residential and Marine Construction (Sawyer RMC), of Grimesland, NC, for \$92,330.

***ANALYSIS:***

Below is a summary of each bid. Note that City staff asked contractors to price out the project by section, including the central, eastern and western spans of boardwalk, as well as the fishing pier and ADA parking spot. (The parking spot will be a concrete pad striped for handicapped use.)

<b>Quotes by Section</b>	<b>Sawyer Residential &amp; Marine Const., Grimesland NC</b>	<b>Sawyer and Sons, Columbia NC</b>	<b>Carolina Marine Structures, Powells Point, NC</b>
1 -- Central Span	\$29,970	\$62,000	\$81,400
2 -- Eastern Span	\$24,300	\$56,000	\$66,240
3 -- Western Span	\$20,250	\$43,995	\$57,240
4 -- Fishing Pier	\$12,960	\$35,955	\$34,000
5 -- ADA Parking Spot	\$4,850	\$9,850	\$6,030
<b>Total Bid:</b>	<b>\$92,330</b>	<b>\$207,800</b>	<b>\$244,910</b>

City staff were pleasantly surprised by Sawyer RMC's very competitive price, which is actually under our project budget. Upon City staff's request, he readily provided numerous references from prior clients, including the Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council, the Town of Windsor, the City of Washington, and the Town of Plymouth. Notably, Sawyer RMC is the contractor who's been repairing the Fenwick-Hollowell Wetlands Trail behind the College of the Albemarle's Elizabeth City campus.

The one caveat to Sawyer RMC's proposal is that, due to a high work volume, the company cannot start work until September 1. City staff believes this is acceptable given his competitive pricing. We have set the duration of construction at 120 days or fewer, and our grant term runs through June 30, 2023. There will still be ample time to complete the project. Additionally, if unforeseen delays did occur, the Division of Coastal Management would allow the City to request an extension.

***STAFF RECOMMENDATION:***

By motion, authorize City staff to enter into a construction contract with Sawyer Residential and Marine Construction in the amount of up to \$92,330, for the GMW Memorial Park Restoration Project.